

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 115205
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 EB-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 AID-05 MC-02 ACDA-07 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /057 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:TSWILKINSON:PG
APPROVED BY T: LBENSON
NEA: NVELIOTES

-----191728Z 088356 /43

O 191719Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115205

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, TS

SUBJECT: TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR HEDDA'S MEETING WITH UNDER
SECRETARY BENSON, MAY 16

REF: STATE 104801

1. IN AN INTRODUCTORY MEETING WITH MRS. BENSON, HEDDA
GAVE RATIONALE FOR TUNISIA'S CURRENT MILITARY MODERNIZA-
TION PROGRAM AND POINTED TO BROAD SUPPORT IN CONGRESS FOR
U.S. MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO TUNISIA SHOWN IN
1976 HUMPHREY/PERCY RESOLUTION AND HIS FREQUENT CONTACTS
WITH MEMBERS. HEDDA HOPED THAT DELAYS IN CHAPARRAL ACQUI-
SITION PROGRAM COULD BE HELD TO MINIMUM AND EXPRESSED
CONTINUING INTEREST IN TUNISIAN PURCHASE OF REDEYE.

2. MRS. BENSON SAID THAT CONGRESS WAS INDEED SYMPATHETIC
TO TUNISIAN NEEDS, BUT ALSO DETERMINED TO REDUCE QUANTITY
OF U.S. ARMS SOLD ABROAD, AND WE ARE DOING OUR BEST TO
ACHIEVE AN FY 1978 AUTHORIZATION BILL THAT DOES NOT LET
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OUR FRIENDS DOWN. SHE DREW ON SECDEF'S LETTER IN
REFTEL TO BRIEF HEDDA ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, AND GAVE HIM
ORIGINAL OF LETTER TO POUCH TO TUNISIAN DEFMIN.

3. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OCCASION, HEDDA ASKED THAT ANNUAL
JUNE 1 NATIONAL DAY LETTER TO TUNISIAN PRESIDENT SHOW
CONTINUED STRONG U.S. SUPPORT FOR REGIME, AND EXPRESSED

HIS HOPE THAT A PLANNING DATE COULD SHORTLY BE SET AND
ANNOUNCED FOR PM NOUIRA TO VISIT U.S. BEFORE THE END OF
1977.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: STATE
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Litigation History:
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